

OPEN LETTER AND PETITION TO PRESIDENT REAGAN

Dear Mr. President:

Nuclear conflict is not war. A new word had to be coined--omnicide--because one nuclear conflict can kill every person on earth.

This is a crime so unspeakable it did not even have a name, a crime so enormous it can be committed only once. It is the final madness, worse than all previous holocausts.

Our presumed adversaries realize this. Three times they have officially proposed a treaty of no-first-use of nuclear weapons between the Warsaw Pact nations and the NATO nations--in 1976 from Warsaw, in 1979 from Budapest, in 1980 from Moscow.

Each proposal was rejected behind closed doors by our government without any announcement or any discussion in Congress, as if the people had no interest in decisions concerning their own annihilation.

Mr. President, this is intolerable. It was a cover-up more dangerous than Watergate. It bordered on insanity. If both sides use these weapons the human world will perish in agonies undreamed of, and if one side uses them we know the other will do the same. The necessary and most immediate precondition of human survival is that neither side will use them.

But that hope is cancelled out if one side refuses a treaty of no-first-use. Such a refusal by itself will make use more likely since it gives the side whose proposal was rejected a most urgent incentive to use them before the opponent does.

To accept a mutual treaty of no-first-use would not mean we are "trusting" anybody. It would not abolish any of our weapons nor reduce any of our vigilance. But it would clarify our intentions and facilitate further negotiations.

Mr. President, we petition you, while there is still time to prevent omnicide, to agree to a mutual treaty of no-first-use of nuclear weapons.

Signature

City, State

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Return to Union of American and Japanese Professionals Against Nuclear Omnicide, 1426 Merritt Drive, El Cajon, California 92020 or mail directly to President Ronald Reagan, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20000.

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